IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-17 as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical modulation [element for modulating] device that modulates a light flux emitted from a light source according to image information, the optical modulation device comprising:

an optical modulation element; and

[wherein] a transparent plate [is] formed on at least one surface [thereof] of the optical modulation element.

2. (Amended) The optical modula ion [element] device according to claim 1, further comprising:

[wherein] a polarizer [is] bonded to said transparent plate.

3. (Amended) The optical modulation [element] <u>device</u> according to [Claim 1 or 2] <u>Claim 1</u>,

[wherein] said transparent plate having a surface and the surface of said transparent plate [is] being coated with a surface active agent, or treated for electrostatic protection.

4. (Amended) A projection display device [having] comprising:

a light source;

an optical modulation element [for modulating] that modulates a light flux emitted from [a] the light source according to image information;[, and]

<u>a</u> projection [means for magnifying] <u>unit that magnifies</u> and [projecting] <u>projects</u> the light flux modulated by said optical modulation element [onto a projection plane,]; <u>and</u>

[wherein] a transparent plate [is] formed on [the] <u>a</u> light [emergent] <u>emitting</u> surface of said optical modulation element.

5. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 4, <u>further</u> comprising:

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[wherein] an antireflection film [is] formed on at least one surface of said transparent plate.

- 6. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 4 [or 5],

 [wherein] said transparent plate having a thickness and said projection unit

 having a focal depth, and the thickness of said transparent plate [is] being set larger than the focal depth of said projection [means] unit.
- 7. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 4 [or 5], <u>further</u> comprising:

[wherein] a polarizer [is]having an optical axis interposed between said transparent plate and said projection [means] unit, said transparent plate [is] being made of a drawing resin and having an optical axis, and the optical axis of said transparent plate almost aligns with the optical axis of said polarizer.

- 8. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 7, [wherein] said polarizer [is composed of] comprising a polarizing layer and a pair of substrates [for sandwiching] that sandwich said polarizing layer and are made of a substrate material, and said transparent plate [is] being made of the substrate [same] material [as that of] used in making said substrates.
 - 9. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 7 [or 8], [wherein] said polarizer [is] being bonded to said transparent plate.
- 10. (Amended) The projection display device according to [any of Claims 4 to 8]

[wherein] said transparent plate having a surface and the surface of said transparent plate [is] being coated with a surface active agent, or treated for electrostatic protection.

11. (Amended) The projection display device according to [any of Claims 4 to 10] Claim 4, further comprising a mounting member and a color synthesizing

prism, [wherein] said optical modulation element [is] being mounted via [a] the mounting member on [a] the color synthesizing prism [for forming said projection means], said mounting member [includes] comprising:

a mounting frame plate composed of a first <u>frame member</u> and <u>a</u> second frame [members for sandwiching] <u>member that sandwich</u> said optical modulation element[,] a fixed frame plate [to be] in a fixed contact with [the] <u>a</u> light incident surface of said color synthesizing prism;[,] and

an intermediate frame plate [to be] sandwiched between said mounting frame plate and said fixed frame plate.

- 12. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 11,

 [wherein] said mounting frame plate [is] being made of a resin containing glass fiber.
 - 13. (Amended) The projection display device according to Claim 11, [wherein] said mounting frame plate [is] being made of metal.
 - 14. (Amended) A projection display device [having] comprising:

 a light source;

an optical modulation element (for modulating) that modulates a light flux emitted from [a] the light source according to image information; [, and]

<u>a</u> projection [means for magnifying] <u>unit that magnifies</u> and [projecting] <u>projects</u> the light flux modulated by said optical modulation element [onto a projection plane said projection display device comprising:] ; and

a partition [for surrounding] that surrounds said optical modulation element via an air layer and thereby [separating] separates said optical modulation element from said light source and said projection [means] unit,

said partition having a transparent plate fitted in a light incident window corresponding to [the] a light incident surface of said optical modulation element, and a light